

John M. Lightner was first Lieutnant in this Company from Huntersville.

The third Company formed was that of Captain Arbogast at Greenbank. It too, was attached to the 31st Virginia Infantry. Captain Arbogast was afterward promoted to Major of the regiment. Lieutenant H. M. Poague of Pocahontas County but serving in a Bath County Company was killed in action at Warrenton Virginia, October 12 1863.

Lieutnant James McLaughlin, of Captain Stofer's Company from Huntersville was wounded at Shepherdstown and died at Winchester, Virginia. The loss was considerable on both sides. Among that of the Confederates was that of Captain Anderson of the Lynchburg Artillery and Captain J. C. Whitmer of the Pocahontas Rifles.

In the Civil War the first engagement which occurred in Pocahontas County was at Camp Bartow on what is known as the Peter Yeager farm known as Traveler's Repose. Late in the summer of 1861 a Confederate force was collected at this point. It consisted of the first Georgia Infantry, Col. Ramsey commanding; the twelfth Georgia, Colonel Edward Johnson in command; the 31st Virginia Infantry, Colonel William L. Jackson and Colonel Hansbro's Battalion; the Churchville Cavalry from Churchville, Augusta County, commanded by the Captain J. C. McMutt; the entire force under the command of General Henry L. Jackson.

On the 14th of September, 1861, this force <sup>was</sup> attacked by the Federals under command of Generals Reynolds and Rosecrans.

The firing began early in the morning and continued until night-fall when the Federals withdrew and fell back to Cheat Mountain summit. The Confederate loss was thirty-six killed. That of the Federals unknown. A few days later the Confederates fell back to Camp Allegheny, and after being reinforced by two regiments, one of which was the 52nd Virginia Infantry, under Colonel John Baldwin, they fortified a strong natural position. Here in December they were again attacked by the Federals and the engagement continued throughout the day, but terminated as had the first, in the repulse of the Federals.

#### BATTLE OF RICH MOUNTAIN

On the 23rd day of June 1861 General McClellan assumed command of the Federal forces in Western Virginia and began a series of movements which met with no successful resistance until the ~~Federals~~<sup>Confederates</sup> were compelled to retreat beyond the mountains. He marched against General Pegrim who with a force of 4000 infantry had taken up a strong position on Rich Mountain which is also known by that name in Pocahontas County. Pegrim sent 2500 men and a battery of artillery to resist the advance of Rosecrans. They were the first to reach the top of the Mountain and here the Federals were greeted by a discharge of Artillery and their advance checked. Soon they were reinforced by an Indiana regiment. A charge was made along the entire line. The Confederates fell back and at once began a hasty retreat.

The mountain was strewn with the dead and the wounded,

150 being burned on the field. Pegrim finding no way of escape a few days later surrendered his entire forces prisoners of war.

General R. E. Lee in West Virginia.

General ~~RxxE~~ Lee, the ablest officer in Virginia, marched at the head of 9000 men against General Reynolds who was lying with a considerable force at Cheat Mountain. The attack was made on the 14th of September and after several hours severe fighting Lee was forced to retreat, leaving 100 dead upon the field.

Among the dead was Colonel John Washington, a recent proprietor of Mount Vernon. Lee's army halted on the banks of the Greenbrier river and began to entrench itself. General Reynolds, after receiving re-enforcements set out on the 2nd of October from Cheat Mountain with a force of 5000 men to drive Lee from his position. Colonel Kimball with the 14th Indiana led the advance while General Milroy, with a portion of his brigade was to deploy to the left, drive in the pickets and force the Confederates within the entrenchments.

At daylight he/ arrived at Greenbrier bridge and found it occupied. A charge was made, the bridge carried and a crossing effected. Then began an artillery duel which fairly shook the surrounding mountains. Soon three of Lee's guns were disabled and he again retreated. The Federal Loss was eight killed and thirty-two wounded. Lee left General Johnson of Georgia with 2000 men on the summit of the Alleghenies,

*Robert A. Jones*

*men over and covered camp of Washington*

and continued his march to Staunton. Milroy marched against Johnson, taking with him the 13th Indiana and two other regiments. On the 15th of December he reached Camp Allegheny where he found the Confederates strongly fortified.

An engagement took place, the results of which were not advantageous to either side, the loss being 130 on both sides. Milroy withdrew and fell back to Cheat Mountain.

*Richard H. Gager*  
*Pocahontas Co -*

Above all taken from Hardesty's Encyclopedia.